

CHURCH RECORD.

"Go ye into all the world, and preach the gospel to every creature."—*St. Mark, xvi. 15.*
"And I saw another angel fly in the midst of heaven, having the Everlasting Gospel to preach unto them that dwell on the earth, and to every nation, and kindred, and tongue, and people."—*Prov. xiv. 6.*

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THE INDIAN CAUSE.

While so much is doing to ameliorate the condition of our Indian tribes, and to introduce among them the blessings appertaining to the Christian religion, it is a matter involving extraordinary interest, and calculated to excite our liveliest gratitude to God, that he has been pleased to smile upon the efforts and to crown them with a large portion of success. Though it is impossible but that difficulties must arise in the prosecution of this undertaking, yet these difficulties have been found less formidable than had been imagined, and God seems to have prepared a pathway for his word by inclining the hearts of the Indians to feel favourably disposed towards the efforts which are making. The missionaries at their various stations seem peculiarly fitted for their arduous undertaking, by their prudence as well as piety; and much, very much is done, when it becomes apparent to the Indians themselves that no desires of speculation, no cold calculations of interest, have been the motives which have brought the white man among them. And they will not be slow to feel and to acknowledge, that it must be some principle other than sordid, which can lead the servants of the Lord Jesus Christ to encounter the dangers and difficulties belonging to their calling as missionaries. From the success which has already attended the efforts of those engaged in this great cause, we have as it were an earnest of an abundant harvest, and to him whose heart is prepared to place its confidence in the sure promises of God, there is no difficulty in looking forward to the time, when the Indians of our western wilds shall be converted to the faith of Christ, and become members of that fold of which he is the shepherd. Let Christians but do their duty, and as instruments in the hand of Providence they shall be honoured in helping on his immense designs. Their contributions and their prayers are due to the cause of their Master, and especially in reference to those heathen of our own land who have but lately seemed to attract that attention which their situation demands. Let Christians direct their exertions

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towards our Indian tribes, and by new missionary stations as well as continued encouragement to the old, hasten the period when the knowledge of the Lord shall cover the earth as the waters cover the sea. They have the promise that they shall in nowise lose their reward.

MISSIONARY SPIRIT.

One of the grand difficulties under which our church labours is the want of means to extend her influence in the way of missionary exertions, and the subject wears an aspect more melancholy, because of the torpor and indifference which generally prevails among churchmen as it regards the prosperity of their own community. While in Europe we find the Episcopal branch of the church of Christ taking the lead in all those immense exertions which are now making to establish the kingdom of our Redeemer, it is lamentably true, that in this country we have heretofore let our brethren of other denominations get greatly the start of us in this glorious and interesting work. We hope that it may not always be so, and we pray to that God who can turn the hearts of men to his glory, that he will render us alive to the interests of the church which his right hand hath planted, and make us willing to lend our exertions to advance her cause, as connected with the cause of our common Christianity. Our indifference is a reproach which it becomes us absolutely to cast from off our shoulders, and if we as churchmen will be but true to ourselves, and true to the cause which we profess to love, the Episcopal church shall yet throw off her weeds of mourning and appear in that clothing which is of wrought gold—shall yet give the evidence of an enlightened zeal in these respects, which shall not leave her in the rearward of the army who are fighting the battles of the Lord against the hosts of ignorance, vice and superstition, but always be in the van, and the first to conquer. To our church we trust the language of the psalm may ere long be applicable, in an accommodated sense, for of her husband who is Christ can it alone be true with emphasis—

“Thee, in thy power’s triumphant day,
The willing nations shall obey;
And when thy rising beams they view,
Shall, all redeem’d from error’s night,
Appear as numberless and bright
As crystal drops of morning dew.”

The following remarks, taken from a paper published in the *Gospel Advocate*, as they fall in so entirely with our own views, are presented to our readers, in the hope that they may aid our own exertions in exciting and cultivating a missionary spirit

among our people, for nothing else is wanting. It was said by our Saviour, "Where the treasure is, there will the heart be also;" and it may be said, where the mission spirit is, there will be multiplied exertions. The writer remarks--

"I have been highly pleased to observe that exertions are making in the *Gospel Advocate*, to excite the members of our church to do something in the cause of missions; and I earnestly hope that these efforts will be successful. The call upon our church to engage zealously in this cause is, at the present time, peculiarly urgent. From almost every quarter, both in our own country and abroad, the cry reaches our ears, "Come over and help us." The recent application from the diocese of Ohio, furnishes a specimen of the assistance that is greatly needed in many a desolate portion of the church. In this instance, some help has been afforded. Some contributions have been made towards the relief of those who hunger and thirst for the bread and the waters of life. But we may still ask, what are these among so many wants as are to be supplied? More, much more, remains to be done, or many, whom it is in our power to furnish with the means of salvation, must continue destitute of those means. It is not enough, that we make one or two contributions for this object. There must be a regular system of operations, so that the wants of different places may be searched out, and those that are the most pressing, supplied.

"Besides the wants of our own countrymen, those of the heathen world ought never to be forgotten. Are we never to take our stand among the Christians of the old world and the new, who are engaged in the glorious work of spreading the knowledge of that 'good news of great joy which shall be to all people?' It seems to me, that we have no right to expect, either the growth of religion in our hearts, or the prosperity of the church about us, until we do something towards carrying the benefits of that religion to others. Shall we daily pray, 'Thy kingdom come,' in words which have come from the mouth of every Christian, from the days of our Saviour until the present time, and not lift a finger to aid in the extension of that kingdom? Why then shall we not fear, that we shall be among the number of those, to whom the address is made, 'Why call ye me Lord, Lord, and do not the things that I say?'

"I shall be told that the church is still feeble in our land, and its members exhausted by frequent demands upon them. Some have expended much in building churches; others are oppressed with the difficulty of furnishing a support to their own minister. I do not undervalue the exertions of those who have thus laboured to build up the church among us. I rejoice in seeing these fruits of their labours. But let me exhort them not to stay

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their hands from the work, while so much remains to be done. Where is the man who has done so much, that he cannot do something more, without feeling it as a burden upon himself or his family? Where is the man who has diminished aught, I will not say from his comforts, but from his *luxuries*, that he might cast it into the treasury of the Lord? Were every member of our church to give a sum, which would be regarded as a trifle if it were expended on the pleasures or vanities of the world, it would supply the means that should make glad many a desolate portion of the vineyard of the Lord. And is it by giving such a pittance, that the want of it is not even felt by us, that we are to show our readiness to forsake houses and lands, for the sake of that Saviour who died for our redemption? Is this the sacrifice that we are prompted to make, by our love to Him who laid down his life a ransom for us all?

"We are told of the Christians in the days of the apostles, that 'neither said any of them that aught of the things that he possessed was his own.' We are not indeed required, in the present age of the world, and the present state of society, to have a community of goods. But surely something of that spirit and disposition of mind, which prompted them to lay down all at the apostles' feet, ought to be found among us. We expect of the missionary who goes abroad among the heathen, that he should partake largely of this spirit. He is called upon to leave, not only houses and lands, but kindred, and friends, and country, for the sake of Christ and his gospel. Why then should not we, who remain at home, surrounded by friends, and by the comforts and luxuries of life, why should not we impart freely of our substance, even although we were to be obliged, by so doing, to fare less sumptuously every day, or to make some sacrifice of vanity or ostentation? Our divine Master, when on earth, had not where to lay his head; and cannot we, who repose on beds of down, spare something for his service, when he calls upon us to aid in extending to others those heavenly blessings which he has imparted so freely to us? It was enough for his disciples to say to the owner of the ass, though a stranger, 'the Lord hath need of him,' and straightway he sent him. Shall those who profess to be followers of Christ be less willing to surrender their property at his call?

"After all, it is but returning to the Lord a small portion of the abundance with which he has blessed us. 'Of thine own have we given thee,' will be the language of every Christian, as he contributes to the spreading of the gospel. Our property, as well as our lives and our talents, is but lent us, that it may be employed in the service of Him from whom we receive it; and to him must an account be rendered of the manner in which it is employed. Ah! what will that account be, if we spend it

only in contributing to the gratification of worldly pleasures, or in procuring worldly honours?"

After speaking of the existence of a missionary society in Massachusetts, he thus alludes to the General Missionary Society of our church:

"There is little doubt that in regard to foreign missions, at least, this society will be disposed to become auxiliary to that recently established by the general convention of the Protestant Episcopal Church of the United States. We have, therefore, a reasonable prospect, that whatever sums any persons shall give, particularly for foreign missions, will be appropriated for that object within a short period of time. In the same manner, it will be in the power of any one who shall prefer either of the other objects of the society, to specify to which of these several purposes his donations shall be applied; while those sums which are not particularly appropriated by the donors, will be applied by the officers of the society to such purposes as they shall think most conducive to the general prosperity of the church."

We exhort our readers to enter into the spirit of the foregoing remarks, and may the Lord sanctify them to the excitement of an earnest desire to extend his kingdom.

DOMESTIC INTELLIGENCE.

Sewing Society.

It is already known, that it is the intention of the General Missionary Society of our church to establish a station on the coast of Africa; and the agent of the society, who is also to be the catechist and schoolmaster, has met with very considerable success in collections. With the characteristic zeal of the female sex in these works of mercy and benevolence, a society has been formed in this city, for the purpose of making such garments as are necessary, and they now meet twice in each week, and give the labour of the afternoon to this charitable object. It is incalculable how much is done in this small way. In the view of the immense good which has been effected through the medium of sewing societies, cent societies, tract societies, &c., we learn not to despise the day of small things. When the people faltered owing to their difficulties in rebuilding the walls of Jerusalem, God encouraged Zerubbabel,— "not by might nor by power, but by my spirit, saith the Lord of hosts." However humble may be the methods, yet encouraged by the promise of God's blessing let us go on, and we may say to Jerusalem, thy walls shall be built. Donations of money, or articles of any description calculated to be made

into garments, will be thankfully received by the society, and can be sent to the Rev. Mr. Allen's, corner of Pine and South Fourth street.

We trust that the example of this society may be followed in other parts of our church.

The convention of the diocese of Connecticut held its annual session in June last. Thirty clerical, and about the same number of lay delegates attended. The Bishop reported that the holy rite of confirmation had been administered in 20 parishes, and received by 461 persons. A new church had been consecrated at Saybrook and another in Hampden. In two other places commodious brick edifices were erecting. Two persons had been admitted to the holy order of Priests, and six to that of Deacons. Eleven were on the list of candidates. Sunday schools are represented as having been found extremely beneficial both to teachers and scholars; and the increase of them is earnestly pressed upon the attention of the whole diocese. We are glad to perceive that the Bishop thus notices the General Missionary Society:

"At a late special General Convention of the Church, held in the city of Philadelphia, the plan of a General Missionary Society was matured, and the same is now regularly organized. It is the object of this society to send missionaries to the remote and destitute settlements of our country; and when its funds will admit, to extend its operations for the civilization and conversion of the Indians, as well as of the heathen of foreign lands. I trust that this society will share the patronage of the more wealthy Episcopalians of this diocese. It is said indeed that 'Charity begins at home:' but to this it has been well replied, that 'it should not terminate there.' We owe duties to society at large, as well as to our own household; and though our own parishes and our own diocese may prefer the first and second claims to our charity, the general interests of religion and the church are not to be overlooked or neglected."

The Society for promoting Christian knowledge within the diocese is devoting all its attention to missions within its own boundaries.

New York.

From the report of the New York Protestant Episcopal Missionary Society, presented at the last year, it appears, that since the previous report, \$1000 had been paid into the hands of the Bishop, to be applied to missionary purposes. Of this the sum of \$329.77 was collected in St. Paul's chapel, after an address

delivered by the Rev. Mr. Richmond; \$140 received from an auxiliary association in Christ's church; \$126.75 from a female missionary society in St. Stephen's church; and \$59 from an auxiliary association in Zion church. An auxiliary association had just been organized in St. John's chapel. Beside these, there are stated to be a number of auxiliaries in remote parts of the diocese.

Massachusetts.

The annual convention of this state met in Boston on the 19th June, present 10 clergymen, and 17 lay delegates, the representatives of 11 parishes. Reported, 661 communicants in 12 parishes; 255 catechumen in 4. A parish library, of 320 vols. has been founded at Greenfield, chiefly by the benevolence of one individual. Another has been commenced in Ashfield. This is a subject which deserves attention in every parish throughout the union. The children of this world are active in disseminating their works, and should not the children of light be equally solicitous to scatter abroad the truths of the gospel?

The following is "a statement of the situation of the Massachusetts Episcopal Missionary Society, and Trustees of the Massachusetts Episcopal Prayer Book and Tract Society, Boston, June 17th, 1822.

Since the commencement of the <i>present year</i> , about 70 sub-	
scribers have been obtained, who have agreed to pay annu-	
ally	\$565 00
Donations have been received from individuals, &c. .	72 00
Received from the scholars belonging to the Salem-street	
Sunday School, being the fruits of a missionary box,	
kept in said school	10 71
Received, through the exertions of a female member of	
St. Paul's Church, profits arising from the sale of Bi-	
shop Wilson's Treatise on the Sacrament	55 00
Donations, which are promised by two individuals of this	
city, of 100 dollars each	200 00
<hr/>	
Making the sum total	\$902 71

"A large proportion of this sum has been already received by the treasurer, say between five and six hundred dollars, of which about fifty dollars has been invested in prayer books.

"It will be observed that *all* the above subscriptions and donations have been obtained *this year*, excepting about twenty-five dollars included in the donations 'from individuals,' &c. which was the avails of a collection taken at Christ Church some years since. There is little doubt that the society will

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realize the sum of one thousand dollars or more, before the close of the year.

"B. HOWARD, *Treasurer.*"

Rhode Island.

"Providence, R. I. June 7, 1822,

"The annual convention of the Protestant Episcopal Church in this state was holden at St. Paul's Church, in Wickford, on Tuesday last.

"Reports were received from the several churches, (excepting St. Paul's, North Providence,) by which it appears that the state of the several parishes is flourishing, and that some are or have been more especially visited with divine blessings.

"A resolution was adopted respecting the subject of missionary funds, and a committee appointed to draft and report the necessary regulations; and committees were appointed in each parish to obtain contributions. The bishop was authorized to appoint a missionary; and it is hoped that additional funds will be raised among the Episcopalianians of our state to enlarge the borders of their Zion.

"The bishop was requested to furnish a copy of his sermon for the press."

Charleston Protestant Episcopal Sunday School Society.

The third anniversary of this society was celebrated in St. Philip's Church, in the city of Charleston, on Whitsun-Tuesday, May 28th, 1822. Divine service was performed by the Rev. Dr. Gadsden, and an appropriate address delivered by the Right Rev. Bishop Bowen. Nearly 170 children attended; and, by their correct deportment, presented a spectacle pleasing and interesting to the patriot and the Christian.

Literary Honours.

At the late commencement of Union College, Schenectady, the degree of D. D. was conferred on the Rev. Henry J. Feltus, rector of St. Stephen's Church, New York; and the honorary degree of A. M. on the Rev. William B. Lacey, rector of St. Peter's Church, Albany.

The degree of LL. D. was recently conferred on John Pintard, Esq. of New York, by Allegheny College.

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